

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing necrosis in a pedicle flap or in any microvascular surgery comprising topically applying to pedicle or other source of blood supply, a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a vasodilator composition comprising ethyl nitrite a composition comprising an NO donor that causes formation of nitrosothiol in tissue.~~
- 2-8. Cancelled.
9. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the vasodilator composition contains alkyl nitrite of molecular weight up to 10,000.
10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the alkyl nitrite is ethyl nitrite.
11. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the vasodilator composition contains an S-nitrosothiol.
12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the S-nitrosothiol is cyclodextrin NO.
13. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the vasodilator composition contains a metal nitrosyl.
14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the vasodilator composition further comprises lidocaine.
15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the vasodilator composition is incorporated in a therapeutically effective amount in a gel containing from 1 μ M to 100 μ M nitrosylated polythiolated cyclodextrin.